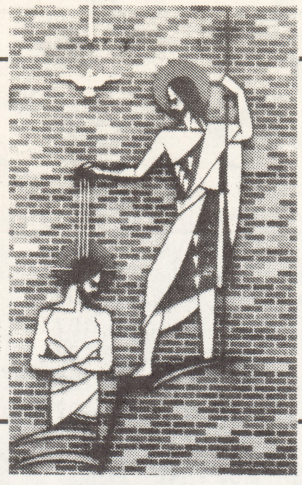
Ypsilanti Catholic

Published Weekly in the Interest of Saint John the Baptist Parish

October 6, 1974



RESPECT LIFE MONTH

Time for realizing our personal reverence for life.

Time for increasing support for adequate representation.

RESPECT LIFE... IF WE DON'T, WHO WILL?

We need to be on the side of those with the greatest need and the least power. A large percentage out of every 10 pregnancies in this country end in abortion. WHO HAS A GREATER NEED?

Bishop Zaleski is asking us to consider this fact this week, the week which begins a month of thoughtful introspection on our personal respect for life.

WHAT CAN WE DO?

One concrete way to show our support of adequate representation on the issue of the right to life is by giving support to the Representatives who have taken a favorable stand on this issue. Gary Owens is one such Representative.

Write to him c/o House of Representatives, P.O. Box 119, Lansing, Michigan 48901

* * * *

The following letter, received from the Michigan Catholic Conference, gives evidence of Mr. Owen's support, consistent with Church teachings.

* * * *

Dear Father Harvey:

The Michigan Legislature has become increasingly involved in legislation which affects very significant areas of Christian concern, justice and morality. With increasing regularity, Michigan Legislators are asked to decide on profound questions concerning the quality of life and the sacredness of the family unit.

Representative Gary Owen, who serves as your legislator in the Michigan House of Representatives, has on many occasions reflected a philosophy consistent with the teachings of the Church on important questions promoting life. On several other legislative proposals which have been important to the Church in Michigan, Representative Owen has given active support.

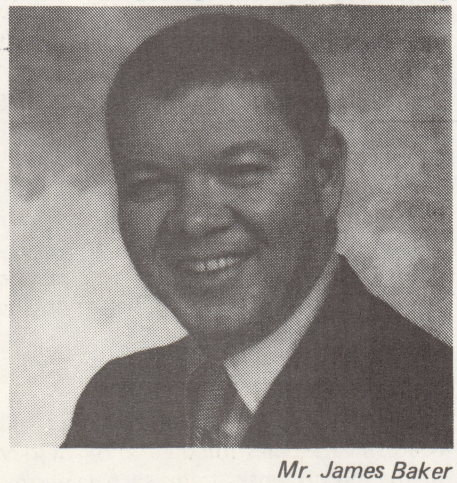
He worked with others to pass the Abortion Conscience Clause Act which allows, doctors, nurses and hospitals to refuse to perform abortions.

He has opposed efforts to dilute the tax exempt status of Church properties.

These issues on which Representative Owen has taken a favorable stand have not always met with unanimous support in his legislative district and yet he has held to his position on the basis of those principles in which he believes. It would be helpful if you could indicate to him that you support his efforts, particularly his efforts in defense of life.

Sincerely,
Thomas M. Bergeson
Executive Director

BISHOP NAMES PARISHIONER BOARD MEMBER



Mr. James Baker

Most Reverend, Alexander Zaleski, Bishop of Lansing, has chosen a parishioner of St. John's to serve a three year term as a member of the Diocesan Board of Education. Mr. James Baker received the Diocesan appointment last week.

Jim has a long record of service both to this parish and to our community. Employed by GM Hyrdramatic Division, Jim is presently serving as a Lector and Commentator, Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist in addition to serving actively on the Service Commission's Bingo Committee. He is past-president of St. John's Dads' Club and was a member of St. John's Board of Education from 1968-1970. At the present time, Mr. Baker is Commissioner of Urban Renewal for the City of Ypsilanti. He has also held the office of District Vice-chairman for Boy Scouts and has been an active participant in the work of Junior Achievement.

Jim and his wife, Kaye, who is also active in this parish's life are the parents of eight children. The family resides at 2112 Collegewood.

As a person who has renewed himself through Adult Religious Education and as a parent with parochial and public school experience, the Diocese will be well served by Jim's vision and personal contribution to the Board of Education.

Mr. Baker will represent the Washtenaw Region at the Diocesan level, succeeding Mr. Gene Kelly of Ann Arbor whose term expired this year.

Congratulations, Jim.

--Fr. Harvey

PARISH DINNER TODAY

Swiss Steak featured
Adults $3.00
Children 12 years
and under $1.25

Lord,
may those
whom You have called
home
rest in the radiance
of heaven's light +

IN MEMORIAM

Benjamin Laurain . . . . . Sept. 2, 1973
Bernard H. Flood . . . . . Sept. 13, 1973
Ruth Chadwick . . . . . Sept. 20, 1974
Theodore Schiska . . . . . Oct. 7, 1973
William A. Fisher . . . . . Oct. 11, 1973
Glen Savinski . . . . . Oct. 16, 1973

PARISH NUPTIAL

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald R. Gondek

On Friday evening, September 27, 1974, Gerald R. Gondek and Eileen Westfall Gilbreath spoke their solemn vows of marriage during a Nuptial Mass celebrated by Fr. Harvey.

The groom's son, Douglas R. Gondek of Lansing, and the bride's daughter, Teresa L. Gilbreath of Chelsea served their parents as main attendants.

Mr. Paul Toth of Detroit was the Lector for the Mass; Greg and Gordon Morris were the acolytes. Mrs. Ruth Lorenz, the soloist, was accompanied by Miss Marie Stachlewitz.

Our happy congratulations are extended to Jerry and Eileen.

CALENDAR CORRECTION

The meeting for PARENTS OF COMMUNION CANDIDATES is scheduled for Thursday, October 17 from 8:00 - 9:30 PM; and Friday, October 18 from 10:00 - 11:30 AM. The themes handled will be: "Eucharist: Celebrating and Making Peace." (Please scratch October 24 date)

The dates for the first meeting regarding FIRST CONFESSION are as follows: Thursday, October 24 from 8:00 - 9:30 PM; or Friday, October 25 from 10:00 - 11:30 AM (Please scratch the Oct. 31 date) Further details on this meeting will be forthcoming.

--Sister Sheila

IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST

A longtime and devoted parishioner was buried during the past week. Mary C. Joyce, age 84, died on Monday, September 30, 1974, at her home, 311 Ballard.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Thursday, October 3, 1974 by Fr. Harvey. Burial followed in St. John's Cemetery.

Mary is survived by two sons, Brendon and Michael; two daughters, Mrs. William (Mary) Evanoff and Mrs. James (Kathleen) Leslie. Eighteen grandchildren and two great-grandchildren also survive as does one brother.

May she share the peace of Christ Risen!

FREEMAN-BUNTING INSURANCE, INC.

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

Our advertisers are nice people and they make our parish paper possible. Please let them know how much you appreciate them.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL REPORT SEPTEMBER, 1974

Food Stamps Purchase 1
Transportation 1
Hotel and Meals 1
Food Given and/or Bills Paid 5
Families given assistance 8
Money spent $153.31
Donations Sept. $15.00

Monthly food drives/donations have again been set for the last Sunday MONTHLY. Won't you be generous so that we are able to be generous to the poor.

NEEDS FOR PARISH SERVICES

...YPSI STATE HOSPITAL workers still need small articles for their 2nd Tuesday of the month work. Items such as purses, gloves, scarves, jewelry, colognes, soap, powder, knick-knacks, sweaters, men's ties or socks, cigarettes, combs, decks of cards, candy (not choc.) are in great demand. We have been able to furnish these items for the past two years. Hopefully, St. John's will not let these patients down as they look forward to this work each month.

...A PARISH WHITE ELEPHANT SALE is being sponsored for the first Saturday of each month, beginning in November. Small or big items no longer needed around the home can be used. We do not wish to work with clothes however ... these can be saved for the Thanksgiving drive or given to your favorite charitable work in town. You can drop off your items in the old section of the school when you come to Mass each week. We have a committee chairman who will arrange the items and do the selling. Keep this project in mind as you see items not being used around the house.

BOY SCOUT PAPER DRIVE

Church Parking Lot
Oct. 19th & 20th
For Pick-up & Collection
Phone: 482-3754 or
482-6091

COME TO THE HARVEST DINNER DANCE SPONSORED BY THE ST. JOHN SERVICE COMMISSION

WHERE: St. John's Church Hall
WHEN: Saturday, October 26, 1974
TIME: Dinner served 7:00 to 9:00 PM
Dancing after dinner and through until approximately 1:00 AM
FEATURING: The CLUBMEN with music for all you square dance lovers, polka groups, dancing for dining especially. We have something for all to make this a real HARVEST DANCE.
DONATION: $14.00 per couple which includes a festive dinner, dancing the whole night through, lighter beverages and set-ups (BYOB) and lots of pleasant company.

—Singles may purchase ticket for half price or bring a friend.

—Costumes are recommended with 3 prizes to be given that night.

* * * *

— Tickets are being sent through mail .. you should be receiving them soon. Please try to make returns as soon as possible so

planning can begin for the proper amounts of food, etc. We hope that many will come, but even if you don't wish to attend, you may choose to purchase the ticket for a friend or just give a donation. ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARD OUR MUCH-NEEDED RENOVATION DRIVE.

* * * *

—We could make this a real HARVEST RAISER with a fun way to give and enjoy at the same time ... will we see you there?

REMINDERS...

...CONVERT INSTRUCTIONS in the Catholic Faith held each TUESDAY, at 7:30 PM in our Education Center.

...COFFEE AND DONUTS have begun after the 9 and 11 AM Masses. It is a good time to meet with other parishioners.

...ROSARY AND BENEDICTION are being held on the FRIDAYS OF OCTOBER at 7:30 PM.

...SOS TRAINING DATES still open for October 8, 9, and 10. Call 485-3222 for interviews.

...MICHIGAN CITIZENS FOR LIFE will still be meeting today. Prayers are in order for the success of this convention.

...The workers for the CHRISTMAS BAZAAR have met and reorganized. Any woman wishing to donate time or talent, call Cathy Guidebeck at 434-1508 so she will know what goods to expect.

...We look to our PARISHIONERS FOR SUPPORT AT OUR BINGO GAMES.

...PRE-MARRIAGE SEMINARS are being held at TRINITY CHAPEL for couples planning to be married at St. John's within the next 6 months. Call 482-1400 for information on the October 11, 12, and 13th seminars.

ASSIST A YOUNG MAN TO THE PRIESTHOOD THROUGH YOUR WILL

EACH YEAR OVER 50 YOUNG MEN, ASPIRING TO THE PRIESTHOOD, DEPEND ON FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE DIOCESE. This expenditure annually exceeds $90,000 00. The (Bishop) JOSEPH H. ALBERS TRUST FUND FOR DIOCESAN VOCATIONS permits our faithful to directly support the cause of vocations by gifts and bequests

Your will is the legal way of controlling the charitable contributions of your estate The language can be as simple as: "All the residue of my estate or $---- I give and devise to the Joseph H. Albers Trust Fund for Diocesan vocations, 300 West Ottawa Street Lansing, Michigan."

Consult with your attorney or call the Bishop's Committee at (517) 372-8540 and they will assist you.

AN OPEN LETTER TO BOB GILLMAN AND CO-WORKERS

What an elegant ramp you have constructed. Our thanks along with many others, I'm sure, once again go out to you for another wonderful service to St. John's. What a joy to once again enter my 'home church' and attend Mass with my husband, Father Harvey, and friends.

May God give you peace and many blessings

Mary Dawson

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY, October 7 - Our Lady of the Rosary
- 7:00 AM - John & Genevieve Nanry req. by the Joe Nanry Family
- 2:30 PM - Foster Thumm, req. by Mrs. George Max (at parkview Nursing Home)

TUESDAY, October 8 - Weekday
- 7:00 AM - Bernard Saleske, req. by Marie Seckinger
- 9:00 AM - Frederick & Kimberly Gillman, req. by Jo & Lyne Buda

WEDNESDAY, October 9 - Weekday
- 7:00 AM - Louise Chadwick, req. by Mary Claire and Bob Anhut
- 9:00 AM - Mary Motto req. by Viola Smith

THURSDAY, October 10 - Weekday
- 7:00 AM - Anastasia Oleson, req. by Mr. & Mrs. Charles Hopp

FRIDAY, October 11 - Weekday
- 7:00 AM - Harold Sweeney, req. by Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Sesi

SATURDAY, October 12 - Weekday
- 9:00 AM - NO MASS OR HOLY COMMUNION
- 12:00 Noon - Nuptial Mass for William E. Bristol & Margaret M. Proskey
- 2:00 PM - Nuptial Mass for Ronald Branham and Delores Frey
- 5:00 PM - William Wickering req. by Mr. & Mrs. John Presensky
- 6:30 PM - Nuptial Mass for Patrick Calmeyn and Diana Wallman

SUNDAY, October 13
- 7:00 AM - Alfred Walters req. by Dr. & Mrs. Paul Nau
- 9:00 AM - Ethel Duffy, req. by Susanne Bemis
- 11:00 AM - Allouisa Verville req. by Ronald Gallesero
- 12:30 PM - Intention of Parishioners

COMMENTATOR SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, October 12
- 5:00 PM ..... Pete Parin

SUNDAY, October 13
- 7:00 AM ..... John Thomas
- 9:00 AM ..... Phil Stokes
- 11:00 AM ..... Dave Wheeler
- 12:30 PM ..... Chris White

LECTOR SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, October 12
- 5:00 PM ..... Ken Macek

SUNDAY, October 13
- 7:00 AM ..... Nan O'Hara
- 9:00 AM ..... Vera Clyne
- 11:00 AM ..... Mary Wheeler
- 12:30 PM ..... Jack White

LAY DISTRIBUTORS

SATURDAY, October 12
- 5:00 PM ..... Clem Budinger

SUNDAY, October 13
- 9:00 AM ..... Richard Wagner
- 11:00 AM ..... Jim Baker
- 12:30 PM ..... Sr. Anne

BABYSITTING

SATURDAY, October 12 - 5:00 PM
SUNDAY, October 13 - 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM.

WEDDING BANNS

II Mark Kennedy and Virginia Hawkins

FINANCIAL BAROMETER

September 29, 1974

Sunday Offertory $2,492.83
Catholic University 401.30
Hall Renovation 106.00
(including $20 Gillmann Memorial)

ALTAR BOY SCHEDULE

Week of October 7, 1974

TEAM 1 ..... Danny Gefre
TEAM II ..... Bill Wagner

SATURDAY, October 12
- 5:00 PM - Mike Presensky and Mike Circirelli

SUNDAY, October 13
- 7:00 AM - Jim and John Pryce
- 9:00 AM - Tom and Jeff Anhut
- 11:00 AM - Greg Gillman and Jerry Moses
- 12:30 PM - Mark Courtois and David Dupuis

WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS
Rick and Jeff Steeby

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- Near Michigan Theatre
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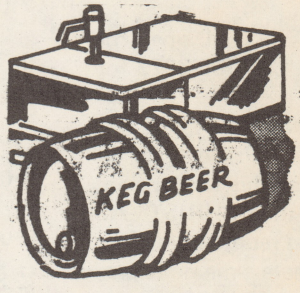

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Domestic and Global Poverty

There is disturbing evidence that American commitment to solving the problem of poverty, both at home and abroad, has slackened. Inflation and economic worries have encouraged many people in the attitude that "charity begins at home."

Does it? Is it possible to confine "charity"—love—in this way? And what of justice? Do not the needs of the poor, both in this country and overseas, make demands on us in justice as well as charity?

We are all members of the same human race, created by the same God, redeemed by the same Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. These are central realities of our belief as Catholics. But if they remain merely on the level of abstract belief—if they are not put into practice in concrete, specific ways—the sincerity of our belief is open to question.

Inequalities of wealth and poverty in the United States are enormous—but they are vastly greater on a worldwide scale. The *Respect Life Program* asks us to take a sober look at poverty in our world and reach our own conclusions about our Christian responsibility.

Other Challenges

Respect for life is at the heart of many other issues. Gun control for example. There are some 40 million handguns in the United States—about one for every five Americans. In 1971, the last year for which FBI statistics are available, 9,000 Americans were murdered by handguns.

Despite these frightening statistics, effective gun control legislation remains a hope rather than a reality. The *Respect Life Program* asks us to find out why—and what can be done about it.

It also encourages us to take a new look at the amnesty issue. Few subjects are capable of generating as much emotion, but the pros and cons of amnesty are seldom seriously debated. At the very least we need to ask ourselves whether—and how—amnesty can be part of a practical program of national reconciliation.

The *Respect Life Program* poses many questions, in the framework of one firm and abiding fact: all human life is sacred.

Today the sanctity of life is challenged in many ways. Responding to the challenges requires facts and insight into the issues. The *Respect Life Program* seeks to encourage such informed response, in the light of our beliefs as Catholics.

RESPECT LIFE PROGRAMS IN MICHIGAN

The several Respect Life issues described in this brochure are being given priority by the Church in Michigan. Additional information on the Respect Life Activities in your Diocese can be obtained from the following persons and organizations.

Archdiocese of Detroit
Mrs. Blanche Barber
305 Michigan Avenue
Detroit, Mi 48226
(313) 237-5929

Diocese of Gaylord
Mr. Richard Beachnau
P. O. Box 700
Gaylord, MI 49735
(517) 732-5147

Diocese of Grand Rapids
Reverend Charles Dautremont
631 Jordan Lake Street
Lake Odessa, Mi 48849
(616) 374-7253

Diocese of Kalamazoo
Reverend Eugene Sears
215 N. Westnedge Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49005
(616) 349-8714

Diocese of Lansing
Reverend Richard Groshek
311 Seymour Street
Lansing, MI 48933
(517) 484-8491

Diocese of Marquette
Reverend Louis Cappo
600 Altamont
Marquette, MI 49855
(906) 228-8630

Diocese of Saginaw
Mrs. Helen Casey
Reverend John Sarge
2555 Wieneke Road
Saginaw, MI 48603
(517) 799-7910

THE RESPECT LIFE PROGRAM, 1974

A Catholic Community Experience

Sponsored by the Committee for Pro-Life Activities,
National Conference of Catholic Bishops, and
Coordinated by the Family Life Division,
United States Catholic Conference
1312 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20005

RESPECT LIFE!

Respect Life Program

1974

A Catholic Community Experience

The Value of Life

How much is a human life worth?

Are the comfort and convenience of parents worth the life of an aborted baby?

Is the money society saves by oppressive welfare laws and inadequate remedial programs worth the stunted life of a poor child?

Is the relief of family members worth the life of an aged person subjected to euthanasia?

Is our affluence worth the lives of Africans and Asians confronting starvation in the face of a global food shortage?

Just what price tag—in terms of money, self-indulgence, social convenience or what have you—can be placed on human life? At what point does violating human life become good business, good social policy, or a good way of looking out for "number one"?

There is no such point.

That is the central message of the Respect Life program. Every human life is sacred. Every life is a gift from God. It is fundamentally wrong to put a price tag on life . . . to act as if human lives can be violated and destroyed, provided the "price" is right.

The *Respect Life Program* deals with many life-related issues. This year the program gives special attention to such topics as abortion, prison reform, the global food crisis, mental retardation, death and dying, health care, aging, poverty, amnesty, and gun control.

These issues are complex. They call for study and reflection. It is not the purpose of the *Respect Life Program* to suggest quick and easy answers.

But in none of these cases can the "answer" be based on the assumption that human life may be sacrificed in the pursuit of other goals. In God's eyes every human life is infinitely precious. The fundamental purpose of the *Respect Life Program* is to remind us that every life should be infinitely precious in our eyes, too.

The Unborn

When the United States Supreme Court, in January 1973, legalized virtual abortion on demand, many people assumed that the issue was settled. They were wrong.

Since the Supreme Court decisions, opposition to the destruction of unborn human life has grown throughout the nation. Often depicted by pro-abortionists as a "religious" issue, opposition to abortion in fact has nothing to do with religious affiliation. Millions of Protestants, Jews, Orthodox, Catholics, and persons of no religious affiliation have voiced their horror at killing the unborn and joined in efforts to remedy the Supreme Court's tragic error.

They have met with considerable success. A number of states have enacted new laws which seek at least to impose as much control on abortion as the Supreme Court's careless rulings allow. The Congress of the United States has also imposed some limited restrictions as far as activities of the federal government are concerned.

But more is needed to fully correct the Court's mistake. Competent observers conclude that an amendment to the U.S. Constitution is required to protect the legal right to life of the unborn child.

Hearings on a constitutional amendment began in the Senate earlier this year. They have yet to begin in the House of Representatives.

Amending our Constitution is not a step to be taken lightly or hastily. But there is a special urgency to this issue. Every day that passes marks the execution by abortion of more unborn children in the United States. A primary objective of the 1974 *Respect Life Program* is to foster understanding of what is at stake in the abortion controversy and to focus attention on the need for a constitutional remedy to what is now a national scandal.

Death and Dying

To a great extent the value we assign to life can be measured by our attitude toward death. Should persons facing this ultimate transition be provided every possible support and reassurance—or should they be hurried on their way under the guise of "death with dignity"?

It is natural and praiseworthy to wish to spare dying persons unnecessary suffering. Christian morality does not demand the use of extraordinary means to prolong the life of a person who will die anyway.

But there is a vast difference, morally speaking, between not employing "extraordinary means" in cases where death is inevitable, and direct intervention to speed death. "Death with dignity" often turns out to mean "pulling the plug" and "pulling the plug" often turns out to mean euthanasia: so-called "mercy killing."

The emphasis is exactly wrong. A Christian attitude toward the dying calls us to give them moral and spiritual support, to help them find meaning in their final experience in this life. But mercy killing is a denial that there can be any meaning in death. It is the approach one might adopt toward a sick animal.

The *Respect Life Program* provides an opportunity for us to examine our own attitudes toward death and dying and reflect on the implications of the movement for euthanasia. Is killing the best answer to the spiritual, emotional and physical needs of the sick and dying? What does it say about a society which might seriously think that the answer is "yes"?

Health Care; the Mentally Retarded; the Aging

Health care is every person's right—a right which should not depend on wealth or social status. Yet our health care system has many obvious deficiencies.

At present the United States seems on the verge of adopting a program of national health insurance. This is a positive and welcome development. But the complexities of such a program are enormous. It is important that efforts to correct current problems should not create new ones. The 1974 *Respect Life Program* aims to encourage study of the issues in order to make possible informed participation in a public discussion of great importance to the nation's future.

Consideration of prospective changes in health care naturally leads to consideration of society's attitude toward the mentally retarded. In a welcome change from the past, the best thinking on this subject now calls for an end to permanent or long-term institutionalization for many retarded persons and urges their fullest possible integration into the life of the community.

But how will the community respond? There are many myths about retardation and many prejudices toward the retarded. Large numbers of them are capable of leading full, rewarding lives—if we let them. Our response depends both upon our compassion and our understanding of their special needs.

So does our response to the aging. Something has gone wrong in our society's approach to elderly persons. Other societies have revered the aged and treated them with love and respect. Ours seems intent on shunting them aside and penalizing them for growing old.

There is much that communities—including parish communities—can do to make life meaningful for the elderly. The *Respect Life Program* encourages us to familiarize ourselves with the opportunities which are available and put them into practice. It encourages us, too, to change our attitudes toward the aging and welcome them with the affection and admiration they deserve.

MERTON

MORE!

School of
Contemporary Thought
and Action

Adult Education Opportunities at Holy Trinity Chapel

511 W. Forest
Ypsilanti – 482-1400

Alive With Wonder

A study of basic Christianity
7:30 - 9:00 p.m.
Mondays, Sept. – April
Instructors: Rev. David Maier
Rev. Robert Kerr

What It Means To Be Human

Contemporary views of person-cultural, philosophical and theological anthropology
Tuesdays - 6:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Instructor: Fr. Robert Kerr
Oct. — Nov.

The Bible, 1974-75

Introduction to the Bible, a study of the Prophets, and an incursion into the Book of Acts, as well as the Pastoral Epistles.
Wednesdays, Oct. – November
7:30 - 9:00 p.m.
Instructor:
Rev. Robert T. Kerr

Women, Society & the Church

Theological and moral principals of female personhood from a Christian framework. Sept- Oct. 17
Thursdays 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.
Instructor: Sr. Catherine Kalous

Radical Christian Perspectives

Examine the new insights of German Political Theology and Latin American Liberation Theology, to aid in the exploration of many evils in political, economic and social systems in the modern world. Oct. – Nov. 21
Thursdays: 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.
Instructor: Fr. C. Peter Dougherty, et.al.

questions ?? Call Fr. Kerr or S. Anne
483-6378